



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

MICHAEL FARGANO et al.

Group Art Unit: 2162

Examiner: Philip Sobutka

Serial No.: 09/295,288

Filed: April 20, 1999

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD INTEGRATING CALL DETAIL
RECORDS FOR MULTIPLE NETWORK ENVIRONMENT

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AUG 01 2002

Attorney Docket No.: 1610 (USW 0487 PUS)

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APPEAL BRIEF

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United States Patent and Trademark Office
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Sir:

This is an appeal brief in support of an appeal from the final rejection of claims 1-20 in the Final Office Action dated March 12, 2002.

I. REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is Qwest Communications International Inc. US West, Inc. merged with Qwest Communications International Inc. The original assignment to US West, Inc. is recorded on reel/frame 9909/0756.

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II. RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no appeals or interferences related to the present appeal.

III. STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. Claims 1-20 have been rejected and are the subject of this appeal.

IV. STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

After final rejection, a response was filed on May 22, 2002. The response did not amend the claims. An advisory action was mailed on June 4, 2002 maintaining the final rejection.

V. SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Applicants' invention relates to a system and method for integrating call detail records for a multiple network environment. Page 1, lines 4-5. Typically, customers that subscribe to wireless services in addition to wireline services are faced with separate service bills for their wireless and wireline subscriptions. Page 2, lines 3-5. With reference to the specification and drawings, and as best shown in Figures 1-3, claim 1 recites a system 10 for integrating call detail records for a multiple network environment. The system 10 comprises access manager control logic 14, 52, connected to a wireless network (left side of line 20). The access manager control logic 14, 52 is configured to generate a wireless call detail record 90 in response to placement of a wireless call from a call source having an identity. The system 10 further comprises switching control logic 18, 56 connected to a wireline network (right side of line 20). The switching control logic 18, 56 is configured to generate a wireline call detail record 92. The system 10 further comprises an operations support system 30 having

call detail record control logic configured to receive the wireless call detail record 90 from the access manager control logic 14, 52, to receive the wireline call detail record 92 from the switching control logic 18, 56, and to combine wireless and wireline call detail records 90, 92 that correspond to the same customer into an integrated call detail record 94, 64. Page 2, lines 14-26; pages 5-6.

As best shown in Figure 1, claim 2 recites that the operations support system 30 receives the wireless call detail record 90 from the access manager control logic 14 in a first call detail record stream 34. The operations support system 30 receives the wireline call detail record 92 from the switching control logic 18 in a second call detail stream 38. Page 2, line 27 - page 3, line 1; page 6, lines 27-31.

As best shown in Figure 2, claim 3 recites that the access manager control logic 52 sends the wireless call detail record 90 over a signaling network 54 to the switching control logic 56. The operations support system 30 receives the wireless call detail record 90 and the wireline call detail record 92 from the switching control logic 56 in a combined call detail stream 68, 70. Page 3, lines 1-4; page 7, lines 1-15.

As best shown in Figure 1, claim 4 recites that the system 10 further comprises a wireless customer care center 40 configured to communicate with the operations support system 30 to retrieve at least part of the integrated call record 94, 64 on demand. Page 3, lines 5-8; page 6, lines 14-18.

As best shown in Figure 3, claim 5 recites that the wireless call detail record 90 includes a mobile identification number 100. Claim 6 recites that the wireless call detail record 90 includes an electronic serial number 102. Claim 7 recites that digits are dialed at the call source, and the wireless call detail record 90 includes the dialed digits 104. Claim 8 recites that the call source has a corresponding location, and the wireless call detail record 90 includes the call source location 106. Claim 9 recites that the call has a duration, and the

wireless call detail record 90 includes the call duration 108. Claim 10 recites that the wireline call detail record 92 includes a full call analysis including call routing information 110. Claim 11 recites that the wireline call detail record 92 includes feature usage information corresponding to the customer 114. Page 3, lines 8-13; page 7, line 16 - page 8, line 5.

With reference to the specification and drawings, claim 12 recites a method 120 for integrating call detail records for a multiple network environment. The method 120 comprises generating 122 a wireless call detail record 90 in response to placement of a wireless call from a call source having an identity. The wireless call detail record 90 is generated at access manager control logic 14, 52 connected to a wireless network (left side of line 20). A wireline call detail record 92 is generated 124 at switching control logic 18, 56 connected to a wireline network (right side of line 20). Method 120 further comprises receiving 126 the wireless call detail record 90 from the access manager control logic 14, 52 at an operations support system 30. The wireline call detail record 92 is received 128 from the switching control logic 18, 56 at the operations support system 30. The wireless and wireline call detail records 90, 92 corresponding to the same customer are combined 130 into an integrated call record 94, 64. Page 3, lines 14-22; page 8, line 17 - page 9, line 5.

As best shown in Figures 1 and 5, claim 13 recites that receiving 126 the wireless call detail record 90 and receiving 128 the wireline call detail record 92 further comprise receiving 142 the wireless call detail record 90 from the access manager control logic 14 in a first call detail record stream 34, and receiving 144 the wireline call detail record 92 from the switching control logic 18 in a second call detail stream 38. Page 2, line 27 - page 3, line 1; page 6, lines 27-31.

As best shown in Figure 2, claim 14 recites that receiving 126 the wireless call detail record 90 and receiving 128 the wireline call detail record 92 further comprise sending the wireless call detail record 90 from the access manager control logic 52 over a signaling network 54 to the switching control logic 56. The wireless call detail record 90 and the

wireline call detail record 92 are received from the switching control logic 56 in a combined call detail stream 68, 70. Page 3, lines 1-4; page 7, lines 1-15; page 9, lines 6-11.

As best shown in Figure 1, claim 15 recites configuring a wireless customer care center 40 to communicate with the operations support system 30 to retrieve at least part of the integrated call record 94, 64 on demand. Page 3, lines 5-8; page 6, lines 14-18.

As best shown in Figure 3, claim 16 recites that the wireless call detail record 90 includes at least one item from the group consisting of: a mobile identification number 100, an electronic serial number 102, dialed digits from the call source 104, a call source location 106, and a call duration 108. Claim 17 further recites that the wireline call detail record 92 includes a full call analysis including call routing information 110. Claim 18 further recites that the wireline call detail record 92 includes feature usage information corresponding to the customer 114. Page 3, lines 8-13; page 7, line 16 - page 8, line 5.

As best shown in Figures 1-3, claim 19 recites a multiple network system 10 for integrating call detail records. The system 10 comprises a wireless network (left side of line 20) and a wireline network (right side of line 20) in communication with the wireless network (left side of line 20) through a control interface 20. System 10 further comprises access manager control logic 14, 52, switching control logic 18, 56, and an operations support system 30. Access manager control logic 14, 52 is connected to the wireless network (left side of line 20). The access manager control logic 14, 52 is configured to generate a wireless call detail record 90 in response to placement of a wireless call from a call source having an identity. Switching control logic 18, 56 is connected to the wireline network (right side of line 20). The switching control logic 18, 56 is configured to generate a wireline call detail record 92. The operations support system 30 has call detail record control logic configured to receive the wireless call detail record 90 from the access manager control logic 14, 52, to receive the wireline call detail record 92 from the switching control logic 18, 56, and to combine wireless

and wireline call detail records 90, 92 that correspond to the same customer into an integrated call record 94, 64. Page 3, lines 23-31; pages 5-6.

As best shown in Figure 1, claim 20 recites that the operations support system 30 receives the wireless call detail 90 from the access manager control logic 14 in a first call detail record stream 34, and the operations support system 30 receives the wireline call detail record 92 from the switching control logic 18 in a second call detail stream 38. Page 2, line 27 - page 3, line 1; page 6, lines 27-31.

VI. ISSUES

Whether claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11-13, and 18-20 are anticipated under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) by Mirza (U.S. Patent No. 5,991,616).

Whether claims 3, 10, 14, and 17 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mirza.

Whether claims 4, 7, 15, and 16 are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mirza in view of Friend (U.S. Patent No. 6,091,944).

VII. GROUPING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11-12, and 18-19 stand or fall together; claims 2, 13, and 20 stand or fall together. Claims 3, 10, 14, and 17 stand or fall together. Claims 4, 7, 15, and 16 stand or fall together.

VIII. ARGUMENT

A. Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11-13, and 18-20 - 37 C.F.R. § 102(e) (Anticipation By Mirza)

The Examiner has rejected claim 1 as being anticipated by Mirza. A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. The Examiner correctly states that identity of terminology is not required. However, although identity of terminology is not required, the single prior art reference must describe each and every element set forth in the claim. MPEP § 2131.

Mirza fails to describe or suggest the claimed access manager control logic configured to generate a wireless call detail record, and the call detail record control logic at the operations support system receiving the wireless call detail record from the access manager control logic, receiving the wireline call detail record from the switching control logic and combining the wireline and wireless call detail records into an integrated call record.

Mirza describes a method for integrated billing and an integrated wireline-wireless system. Mirza uses an advanced intelligent network (AIN) service control point (SCP) 102 to generate wireless and wireline bills, and does not describe or suggest the claimed access manager control logic and operations support system in combination with the other recited limitations. The Examiner has directed Applicants' attention to the drawing and col. 3, l. 13 - col. 4, l. 40 of Mirza. Mirza describes AIN SCP 102 performing billing functions for calls in wireless section 200 (col. 3, ll. 35-37).

Applicants believe that claim 1 is patentable over Mirza because Mirza fails to describe or suggest the claimed access manager control logic generating a wireless call detail record and the call detail record control logic of the operations support system receiving the wireless call detail record from the access manager control logic, combined

with the other claimed features. The Examiner states that the fact that Mirza uses different terminology does not distinguish the claims. Mirza uses different terminology, and Mirza does not describe the identical invention recited by claim 1. For example, claim 1 recites that the access manager control logic is connected to a wireless network and generates a wireless call detail record in response to placement of a wireless call from a call source having an identity. Claim 1 further recites an operation support system having call detail record control logic configured to receive the wireless call detail record from the access manager control logic. **The access manager control logic is not identical to or equivalent to a service control point (SCP) because the SCP does not manage access which is required of any access manager control logic.**

This is exemplified in Figure 1 of Applicants' application where access manager control logic is indicated at 14 on the wireless side of the network and integrated service control point (ISCP) 16 is shown on the wireline side of the network. Mirza describes AIN SCP 102 performing billing functions for calls in wireless section 200, but does not describe or suggest the specific elements and functions defined by independent claim 1. **Reference to the specification and drawings is for illustration purposes, the specific combination of structures and functions recited by claim 1 is believed to be patentable.** That is, Mirza does not anticipate the invention defined by independent claim 1 because Mirza does not describe the identical invention defined by claim 1. Claim 1 recites a specific collection of elements operating and performing functions in a specified way to achieve integrated call detail records. Because Mirza does not describe all of the claimed elements and functions, claim 1 is believed to be patentable over Mirza. Further, there is no suggestion to modify Mirza to achieve the invention of claim 1.

Claims 12 and 19 are believed to be patentable for similar reasons as discussed for claim 1. Claims 2, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 18, and 20 are dependent claims and are also believed to be patentable.

Further, dependent claims 2, 13, and 20 are believed to recite further patentable subject matter. The Examiner has rejected dependent claims 2, 13, and 20 as anticipated by Mirza. These claims recite that the operations support system receives the wireless call detail record from the access manager control logic in a first call detail record stream. Mirza fails to describe these claimed features.

B. Claims 3, 10, 14, And 17 - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)
(Unpatentable Over Mirza)

Claims 3, 10, 14, and 17 are dependent claims and are also believed to be patentable.

C. Claims 4, 7, 15, And 16 - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)
(Unpatentable Over Mirza In View Of Friend)

Claims 4, 7, 15, and 16 are dependent claims and are also believed to be patentable.

IX. SUMMARY


In applying the primary reference, Mirza, the Examiner had pointed out general teachings of billing. However, the applied reference fails to specifically describe or suggest the claimed invention as recited in the claims.

For reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-20 are patentable. The final rejection of claims 1-20 should be reversed.

The fee of \$320 as applicable under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(c) is enclosed. Please charge any additional fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this filing to our deposit account No. 02-3978.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure - Appendix

X. APPENDIX - CLAIMS ON APPEAL

1. A system for integrating call detail records for a multiple network environment, the system comprising:

access manager control logic connected to a wireless network, the access manager control logic being configured to generate a wireless call detail record in response to placement of a wireless call from a call source having an identity;

switching control logic connected to a wireline network, the switching control logic being configured to generate a wireline call detail record; and

an operations support system having call detail record control logic configured to receive the wireless call detail record from the access manager control logic, to receive the wireline call detail record from the switching control logic, and to combine wireless and wireline call detail records that correspond to the same customer into an integrated call record.

2. The system of claim 1 wherein the operations support system receives the wireless call detail record from the access manager control logic in a first call detail record stream, and the operations support system receives the wireline call detail record from the switching control logic in a second call detail stream.

3. The system of claim 1 wherein the access manager control logic sends the wireless call detail record over a signaling network to the switching control logic, and wherein the operations support system receives the wireless call detail record and the wireline call detail record from the switching control logic in a combined call detail stream.

4. The system of claim 1 further comprising:
a wireless customer care center configured to communicate with the operations support system to retrieve at least part of the integrated call record on demand.

5. The system of claim 1 wherein the wireless call detail record includes a mobile identification number.

6. The system of claim 1 wherein the wireless call detail record includes an electronic serial number.

7. The system of claim 1 wherein digits are dialed at the call source, and the wireless call detail record includes the dialed digits.

8. The system of claim 1 wherein the call source has a corresponding location, and wherein the wireless call detail record includes the call source location.

9. The system of claim 1 wherein the call has a duration, and wherein the wireless call detail record includes the call duration.

10. The system of claim 1 wherein the wireline call detail record includes a full call analysis including call routing information.

11. The system of claim 1 wherein the wireline call detail record includes feature usage information corresponding to the customer.

12. A method for integrating call detail records for a multiple network environment, the method comprising:

generating a wireless call detail record in response to placement of a wireless call from a call source having an identity, the wireless call detail record being generated at access manager control logic connected to a wireless network;

generating a wireline call detail record at switching control logic connected to a wireline network;

receiving the wireless call detail record from the access manager control logic at an operations support system;

receiving the wireline call detail record from the switching control logic at the operations support system; and

combining wireless and wireline call detail records corresponding to the same customer into an integrated call record.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein receiving the wireless call detail record and receiving the wireline call detail record further comprise:

receiving the wireless call detail record from the access manager control logic in a first call detail record stream; and

receiving the wireline call detail record from the switching control logic in a second call detail stream.

14. The method of claim 12 wherein receiving the wireless call detail record and receiving the wireline call detail record further comprise:

sending the wireless call detail record from the access manager control logic over a signaling network to the switching control logic; and

receiving the wireless call detail record and the wireline call detail record from the switching control logic in a combined call detail stream.

15. The method of claim 12 further comprising:

configuring a wireless customer care center to communicate with the operations support system to retrieve at least part of the integrated call record on demand.

16. The method of claim 12 wherein the wireless call detail record includes at least one item from the group consisting of: a mobile identification number, an electronic serial number, dialed digits from the call source, a call source location, and a call duration.

17. The method of claim 12 wherein the wireline call detail record includes a full call analysis including call routing information.

18. The method of claim 12 wherein the wireline call detail record includes feature usage information corresponding to the customer.

19. A multiple network system for integrating call detail records, the system comprising:

a wireless network;

access manager control logic connected to the wireless network, the access manager control logic being configured to generate a wireless call detail record in response to placement of a wireless call from a call source having an identity;

a wireline network in communication with the wireless network through a control interface;

switching control logic connected to the wireline network, the switching control logic being configured to generate a wireline call detail record; and

an operations support system having call detail record control logic configured to receive the wireless call detail record from the access manager control logic, to receive the wireline call detail record from the switching control logic, and to combine wireless and wireline call detail records that correspond to the same customer into an integrated call record.

20. The system of claim 19 wherein the operations support system receives the wireless call detail record from the access manager control logic in a first call detail record stream, and the operations support system receives the wireline call detail record from the switching control logic in a second call detail stream.